

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

3/9/05

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 52 (BARCIA)

SB 52 would provide an additional incentive for commercial property owners to rehabilitate and or add additional stories to commercial property. This bill (HB 5483) was originally introduced in the House last session to assist a project in Bay City. It passed the House unanimously, but was never considered by the Senate.

Support: Michigan Municipal League, Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.

- BARCIA 1 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- BARCIA 2 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 52 passed [RC 22: 37 yes, 0 no].

SBs 53-4 (Brown) SB 151 (Brown)

<u>SB 53</u> would add violations of SB 54 to the sentencing guidelines. Installation or attempted installation of spyware would be a felony punishable by a maximum of two years' imprisonment. Installation or attempted installation with a prior conviction would be a felony punishable by imprisonment for up to four years.

• SB 53 passed [RC 23: 37 yes, 0 no].

<u>SB 54</u> would prohibit a person from installing or attempting to install spyware on another person's computer without permission. The bill also would prohibit a person from manufacturing, creating, distributing, or possessing spyware to be used in violation of the bill.

• SB 54 passed [RC 24: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 151 would create the Spyware Control Act, which would prohibit unauthorized installation of spyware on individuals' computers, and would provide remedies for civil damages to be sought. Spyware is any technology (usually a computer program) that aids in gathering information about a person or organization without their knowledge, and often without their consent. Such information can range from what websites a user likes to visit (which allows tailoring of advertising content, often in annoying "pop-up" windows), to keystroke logging (allowing for pilfering of sensitive personal information, such as passwords, social security numbers, or credit card numbers), and is often sent to a remote computer to be used in unethical/illegal ways.

- JACOBS 1 (2 amends) was defeated [RC 25: 15 yes, 22 no (GOP)]. Employee privacy protection: This would require companies to notify employees if they are tracking (i.e., spying on) their computer activities.
- BRATER 2 (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. Tie-bar to SB 284. Employee privacy protection: SB 284 would require companies to notify employees if they are tracking (i.e., spying on) their computer activities.
- SB 151 passed [RC 26: 37 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 72 (Birkholz)

SB 72 would require the board of a school district, local act school district, or intermediate school district, or the board of directors of a public school academy, to ensure that the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was offered each school day to students in the public schools the board operated.

• SB 72 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 223 (Jelinek)

SB 223 would allow an agricultural processing company (with a North American Industry Classification System designation) to claim an apprenticeship credit of up to \$4,000 per apprentice trained by the company in a tax year. This supplements existing credits available for apprentice training in other industries. SFA estimates the cost to be approximately \$1 million annually.

Support: Michigan Farm Bureau, MSU Extension Services, MI Food Processing Association.

- Committee 1 (1 amend) was adopted.
- SB 223 was moved to 3rd Reading.

RESOLUTIONS

SR 9 (Stamas)

A resolution to express support for the mission of Rural Partners of Michigan and calling for increased investment in this work.

• SR 9 was adopted [no RC].